

to describe Janine's grace, her delicate nature, her respect for her colleagues, her genuine kindness, and her commitment to the work at hand. I'm told that on many occasions when staff completed work for the night, usually past midnight, and left sections for Janine to draft that often her work was on their desks by 9:00 the next morning. She was always willing to stay long past when the Metro closed, as long as she had a ride home.

We, in the committee, relied heavily on Janine's legal abilities, her legislative drafting precision and we were fortunate to have her as a star on our team—although for far too short a time.

Janine's academic achievements are superior, graduating with high honors from Harvard Law School in 1986 and then clerking for the Honorable Cecil Poole on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit. With her exceptional qualifications, I'm confident that she would have been successful in any career path she chose. Fortunately, for us, she came to the Senate and for 13 years we have all been more successful because of her.

The poet Albert Pike has said:

What we have done for ourselves alone dies with us; what we have done for others and the world remains and is immortal.

Janine has certainly touched many of us in lasting ways. The Senate is grateful for her service and we share our condolences with her friends and family.

Mr. JEFFORDS. Mr. President, as Senators, we are accustomed to the glare of the public spotlight and there are even some members of Congress who crave such attention. In general though, we are here because we share a deep desire to serve our country and to help ensure that our government and its laws are true to the spirit of America.

We sometimes forget that we are also part of a Senate community filled with people who believe in that same kind of public service. Though they do not share the spotlight with us, we could not do our jobs without them and the nation would suffer.

So, I want to recognize the contributions made by all staff, and in particular the experts in the Office of Senate Legislative Counsel that help keep us true to the law, its structure and its functioning. They help put our ideas into real form and maintain the integrity of the code.

That is why it is very very difficult today to note the passing of Janine Johnson, Assistant Counsel in Office of Legislative Counsel. She was an integral and crucial part of that office.

Her professionalism, her deft grasp of complicated statutes, her work ethic, and above all, her pleasant manner and bearing, will be sorely missed by that office, but also by me, my office and in particular, my Environment and Public Works Committee staff.

Many of my staff have worked with Janine for a decade or more and have

been uniformly impressed by her unparalleled skill and commitment to her job.

Janine had a knack for taking even the most complicated concepts and proposals and breaking them down into manageable parts. Then, she found ways to integrate them into existing statutes. To many staff, she was a legislative magician.

One did not need to know Janine for very long to see that she shone with a pure and intense inner light that made the way clearer and easier for others. But, the memory of her kindness and delicate humor will live on and inspire those who follow her.

Janine was a talented woman and a lawyer's lawyer. She had a green thumb and many days brought one of her prized amaryllis plants in to brighten the front office. She also spoke many languages, including beginning Russian which I believe she started in Middlebury, VT.

The Senate has suffered a great loss with the passing of Janine Louise Johnson. I wish her family and friends all the best in coping with the pain. However, I want to note that her significant contributions to the Senate and to the nation will not be forgotten and that she should serve as a model for us all.

Mr. COCHRAN. Mr. President, it is with sadness that I join my colleagues to mourn the premature passing of a dedicated member of the Senate staff.

Ms. Janine Johnson was an Assistant Counsel in the Office of the Legislative Counsel. She was a 1986 graduate of Harvard College and a 1989 graduate of Harvard Law School.

Her responsibilities included drafting legislation in areas that are within the Agriculture Committee's jurisdiction. Her thoughtful work and dedicated service to members of the Senate are reflected in legislation such as the 1996 and 2002 farm bills and the 1998 child nutrition reauthorization.

The work of the Office of the Legislative Counsel often goes unnoticed and under appreciated, but it is talented attorneys like Ms. Janine Johnson who provide such a valuable service to the Senate. I extend my sympathies to Ms. Johnson's family and friends.

VOTE EXPLANATION

Mrs. DOLE. I want to explain why I was necessarily absent from the June 13 vote on the confirmation of R. Hewitt Pate to be an Assistant Attorney General for Antitrust. At the time the vote took place, I was speaking to the Flue Cured Tobacco Stabilization Corporation, a group of more than 500 North Carolina tobacco farmers, in Raleigh, NC. My attendance at the event was important in order to listen to the major concerns of our State's tobacco farmers, as well as to address one of North Carolina's top priorities, a tobacco quota buyout, which is critical to the livelihood of all tobacco farmers and the economic security of our State.

Had I been present, I would have voted for Mr. Pate.

HONORING OUR ARMED FORCES

Mr. LUGAR. Mr. President, 2 months ago when President Bush declared an end to combat operations in Iraq, I rose to pay tribute to the seven service members with Indiana roots who sacrificed their lives in Operation Iraqi Freedom. I observed that while these seven fine young men were engaged in a noble and worthy cause—making the world safer for all freedom-loving peoples—their deaths again showed us that freedom never comes without a heavy price in human lives.

At the time I delivered those remarks, I and all Americans understood that there would still be dangerous times ahead for our service members, but we sincerely hoped there would be no more reports of American service members killed in combat operations.

Today, I am sad to report, our troops in Iraq are still very much at risk of injury or the ultimate sacrifice as they work to restore order and a civil society in this troubled country. It seems that almost every day we receive news of soldiers being ambushed or attacked in hit-and-run type incidents. More than 40 American troops have fallen since May 1st. We are still suffering combat casualties, and it is obvious that reconstruction of Iraq is going to be a lengthy and difficult process.

During these past 2 months, three of those who fell were brave young men with Indiana roots. Three more Indiana families have been devastated by the loss of a loved one. Today, I would like to pay tribute to these three fine young men.

Marine Lance Corporal Matthew R. Smith of Anderson, IN, was killed on May 10 in Kuwait when the Humvee he was riding in struck a trailer in a military convoy. Matthew, a Marine Corps Reservist, was 20 years old and a sophomore at Indiana University. He went overseas with his unit in February and had traveled all the way to Baghdad while providing support to Marine combat forces.

On the day Matthew died, his father, David Smith, received the first letter from his son since he went overseas. Matthew wrote that he was proud to be in Iraq as a marine fighting for his country's freedom.

Matthew Smith will be missed.

Army Private Jesse Halling of Indianapolis was killed on June 10 in the city of Tikrit when his military police squad became engaged in a firefight after being ambushed. Jesse was in the turret of a Humvee firing a machine gun at their attackers when a rocket-propelled grenade struck the vehicle. His commander has recommended him for a Silver Star Medal for bravery under fire.

Jesse was 19 years old and had enlisted in the Army right after his graduation from Ben Davis High School, where he had participated in Junior